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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R.
§1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 3739**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Parris S. Wellman, et al.

Examiner: Michael F. Peffley

Serial No: 10/615,152

Art Unit: 3739

Filed: July 8, 2003

Docket: 14641Z (ETH-1559CONT)

For: SURGICAL DEVICE FOR
CLAMPING, LIGATING, AND
SEVERING TISSUE

Dated: December 5, 2005

Conf. No.: 8263

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Do Not Enter
Sir:

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

MP 12/5/05
This Amendment is filed in reply to the Office Action mailed September 28,
2005. Entry and consideration of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 5, 2005.

Dated: December 5, 2005

Dermott J. Cooke
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